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Application No. 10/561,097 - - - - - 2

MAY 08 2008

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-15 (canceled).

Claim 16 (previously presented): A polypeptide comprising the amino acid residue sequence:

SPAPPACDLRVLSKLLRDSHVLHSRLSQCEVHPLPTPVLLPAVD FSLGX¹X²KTQX³EEX⁴KX⁵
X⁶DX⁷LGAX⁸TX⁹LX¹⁰X¹¹GVMAARGQLGPTCLSSLLGQLSGQVRLLLGALQSLLGTQLPPQGR
TTAHKDPNAIFLSFQHLLRGKVRFLMLVGGSTLCVRRAPPTAX¹²X¹³SRTSLVLTNL (SEQ
ID NO: 1), wherein

X¹ is A or E;X² is S or W;X³ is A, T, K, S or M;X⁴ is A or T;X⁵ is R or A;X⁶ is A, T, or Q;X⁷ is A, T, or I;X⁸ is A, T, or V;X⁹ is A, T, S, or L;X¹⁰ is A or L;X¹¹ is A, S, or E;X¹² is N, A, T, R, E, D, G, H, P, K, Q, or V;X¹³ is A or P;

excluding the polypeptide in which simultaneously X¹ = E, X² = W, X³ = M, X⁴ = T, X⁵ = A,
X⁶ = Q, X⁷ = I, X⁸ = V, X⁹ = L, X¹⁰ = L, X¹¹ = E, X¹² = V and X¹³ = P.

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Claim 17 (previously presented): A fusion protein comprising a polypeptide of claim 16 linked at the N-terminus thereof to a human immunoglobulin Fc region peptide.

Claim 18 (previously presented): The fusion protein of claim 17 wherein the Fc region peptide is linked to the N-terminus of the polypeptide by a linking peptide having the amino acid residue sequence of SEQ ID NO: 5.

Claim 19 (previously presented): The fusion protein of claim 17 wherein the Fc region peptide is a human IgG4 Fc region peptide.

Claim 20 (previously presented): The fusion protein of claim 19 wherein the human IgG4 Fc region peptide is linked to the N-terminus of the polypeptide by a linking peptide having the amino acid residue sequence of SEQ ID NO: 5.

Claim 21 (previously presented): The fusion protein of claim 17 wherein the Fc region peptide has the amino acid residue sequence of SEQ ID NO: 73.

Claim 22 (previously presented): The fusion protein of claim 21 wherein the Fc region peptide is linked to the N-terminus of the polypeptide by a linking peptide having the amino acid residue sequence of SEQ ID NO: 5.

Claim 23 (previously presented): A polypeptide comprising an amino acid residue sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 6 through SEQ ID NO: 72, inclusive.

Claim 24 (previously presented): A fusion protein comprising a polypeptide of claim 23 linked at the N-terminus thereof to a human immunoglobulin Fc region peptide.

Claim 25 (previously presented): The fusion protein of claim 24 wherein the Fc region peptide is linked to the N-terminus of the polypeptide by a linking peptide having the amino acid residue sequence of SEQ ID NO: 5.

Claim 26 (previously presented): The fusion protein of claim 24 wherein the Fc region peptide is a human IgG4 Fc region peptide.

Claim 27 (previously presented): The fusion protein of claim 26 wherein the human IgG4 Fc region peptide is linked to the N-terminus of the polypeptide by a linking peptide having the amino acid residue sequence of SEQ ID NO: 5.

Claim 28 (previously presented): The fusion protein of claim 24 wherein the Fc region peptide has the amino acid residue sequence of SEQ ID NO: 73.

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Claim 29 (previously presented): The fusion protein of claim 28 wherein the Fc region peptide is linked to the N-terminus of the polypeptide by a linking peptide having the amino acid residue sequence of SEQ ID NO: 5.

Claim 30 (previously presented): A dimeric fusion protein consisting of two identical fusion proteins of claim 17 bound together.

Claim 31 (previously presented): A dimeric fusion protein consisting of two identical fusion proteins of claim 24 bound together.

Claim 32 (previously presented): A fusion protein comprising a polypeptide linked at the N-terminus thereof to a human Fc region peptide, the polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 4 and including one or more amino acid residue substitutions in SEQ ID NO: 4 selected from the group consisting of M55K, A60R, and V161A.

Claim 33 (previously presented): An isolated peptide molecule consisting of an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 2, SEQ ID NO: 3, and a sequence consisting of at least 9 consecutive amino acid residues of SEQ ID NO: 2 or SEQ ID NO: 3 having a MHC class II binding activity characterized by a stimulation index of > 1.8 in a biological assay of cellular proliferation, wherein the stimulation index is the value of cellular proliferation scored following stimulation by the peptide, divided by the value of cellular proliferation scored in control cells not exposed to the peptide.

Claim 34 (new): An isolated peptide molecule defined by SEQ ID NO: 6.